GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5956
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2003
WEEDING OUT OF PLAN SCHEMES
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission had recommended weeding out of some plan schemes like Save Grain Campaign (SGC) Indian Grain Management Research Institute (IGMRI) and Central Grain Analysis Laboratory (CGAL) during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry represented to the Planning Commission for continuance of these schemes;

(d) if so, the response of the Planning Commission;

(e) whether the Government have made any alternative arrangements in absence of these schemes to check post harvest losses and for quality control; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SU MAHARIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): While considering the zero based budgeting in respect to the Plan Scheme of the Department of Food and Public Distribution, the Planning Commission had recommended that the Save Grain Campaign scheme can be discontinued in the 10th Plan while the Indian Grain Management Research Institute (IGMRI) and Central Grain Analysis Laboratory (CGAL) schemes can be transferred to the Non-Plan category.

(c): Yes, Sir. The Ministry had represented to the Planning Commission during February 2002 and October 2002 to allow either the continuance of these Plan schemes during the 10th Plan period or to allow this Ministry to convert the Plan scheme into Non-Plan scheme.

(d): The Planning Commission has agreed that the IGMRI and CGAL schemes should continue to operate as Non-Plan schemes. For this, the Ministry should take up the matter with the Finance Ministry.

(e)&(f): With a view to minimize post harvest losses and for quality control of foodgrains, the Ministry has decided to continue the non-Plan component of IGMRI, SGC and CGAL.